A NEW SPECIES OF AGERATINA (ASTERACEAE: EUPATORIEAE) FROM SINALOA, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

A new taxon, Ageratina concordiana B.L. Turner, sp. nov., belonging to the A. capillipes complex, is described from southern Sinaloa. A photograph of the type is provided, along with a map showing the distribution of the new species and other members of the complex.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Eupatorieae, Ageratina, A. capillipes, Mexico, Sinaloa

Ongoing identification of the Asteraceae from Mexico has occasioned the present paper.

AGERATINA CONCORDIANA B.L. Turner, sp. nov. Figure 1. TYPE: MEXICO. Sinaloa. Mpio. de Concordia: Transecto de Rancho Coyotes a El Pirame, Comunidad La Guásima, herbácea común localmente en la zona de trompetas-roblar, 23° 23.289' N, 105° 58.7' W — 23° 24.911' N, 105° 59.387' W, 411–728 m, 3 Mar 2010, *Marcela Ruiz Guerrero 2010-105* [with Albert van der Heiden] (holotype: TEX).

Resembling Ageratina reserva B.L. Turner, differing in having larger, sub-cordate blades, ultimate peduncles minutely glandular pubescent, and smaller heads (ca 4 mm high vs. 5 mm).

Perennial herbs, 50 cm high or more. Midstems sparsely pubescent with minute hairs or glabrate. Leaves (upper), 11–14 cm long, 6–7 cm wide; petioles 4–6 cm long, pubescent like the stems, grading into the blades; blades subcordate, glabrous above and below, or nearly so, 3-nervate from the very base, margins irregularly serrate. Heads ca 4 mm high, 3 mm wide, numerous and arranged in both lateral and terminal congested cymose panicles, ultimate peduncles 2–5 mm long, minutely glandular pubescent. Involucral bracts 16–18, 2–3 mm long, glabrous or nearly so, arranged in 2 series. Florets 12–20 per head; corollas white, ca 2.5 mm long, lobes sparingly pubescent. Achenes (immature) ca 1 mm long, sparsely pubescent; pappus of ca 10 fragile, pinkish, bristles ca 1.5 mm long. Noted by collectors to have "olor dulce a miel."

The epithet is derived from the Mpio. de Concordia, whence the type.

In my treatment of Ageratina for Mexico (Turner 1997), the novelty will key directly to A. helenae King & Rob., a mostly Central American species treated as a synonym of A. capillipes by Williams (1976). I now believe that A. helenae is confined to Central America.

Ageratina concordia clearly belongs to the A. capillipes King & Rob. complex of Mexico (sensu Turner 2012), where it will key to the Chiapasan A. reserva B.L. Turner, differing from the latter in having larger, subcordate blades, ultimate peduncles minutely glandular pubescent and smaller heads (ca 4 mm high vs 5 mm). With description of the present novelty, the complex in Mexico now includes 5 species (Fig. 2). The following key, modified from that presented by Turner (2012), should help identify the taxa concerned.

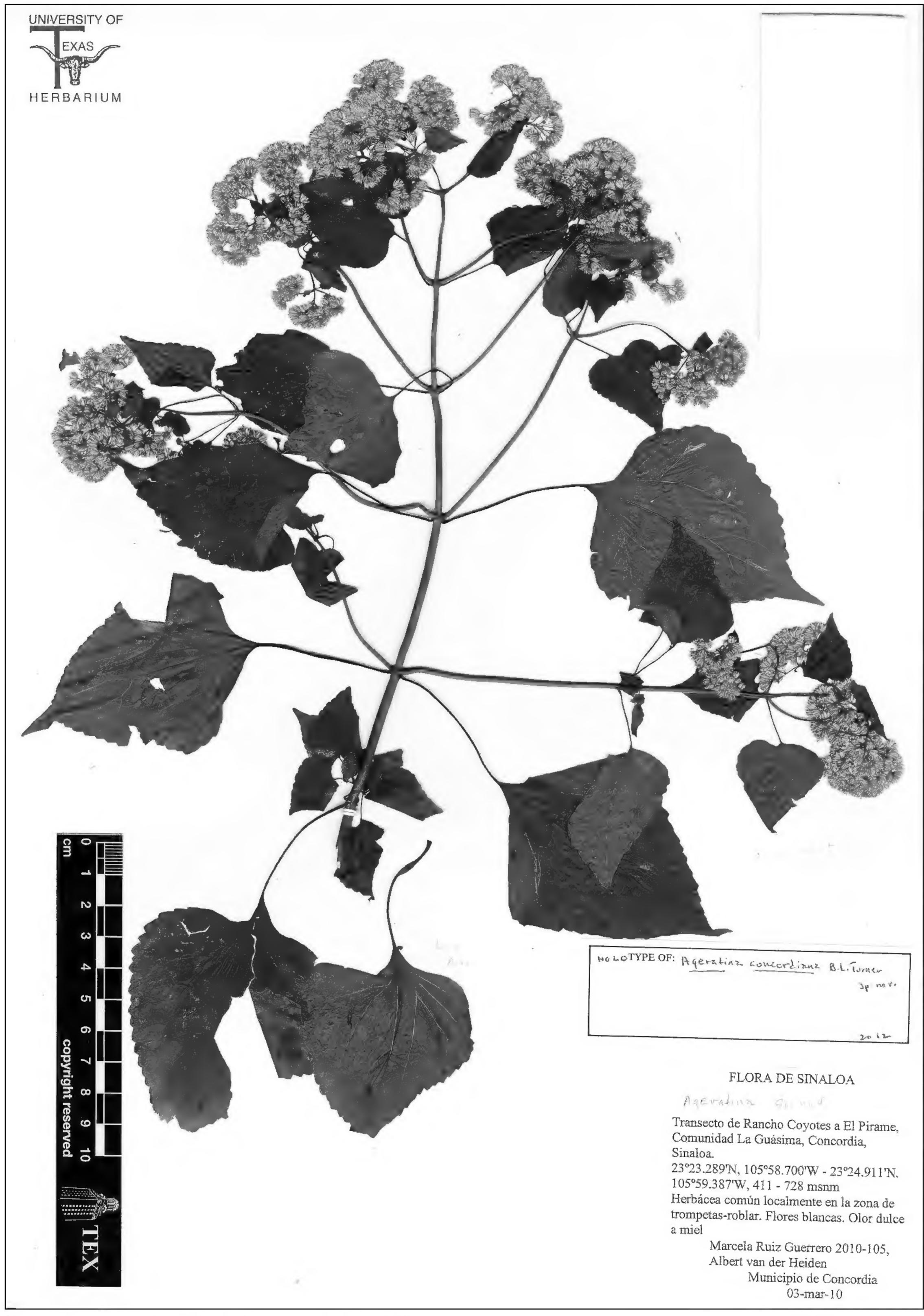


Figure 1. Ageratina concordiana (holotype TEX).

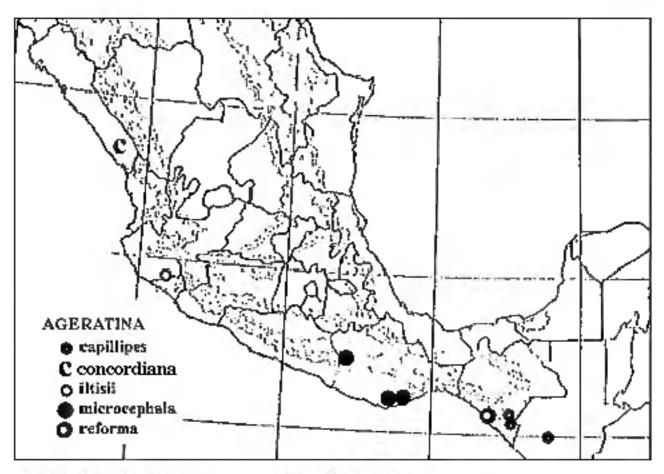


Figure 2. Distribution of the Ageratina capillipes complex in Mexico.

Key to species of the Ageratina capillipes group in Mexico

1. Leaf blades 3-5 nervate from above the base.

Leafblades 5–7 cm wide; Oaxaca Leafblades 2–4 cm wide; Chiapas and Guatemala	Ageratina microcep hala Ageratina capillipes
1. Leaf blades 3-nervate from the very base.	
3. Petioles much shorter than 1/2 the blade length; Jalisco	Ageratina iltisii
4. Leaves subcordate, 11–14 cm long, 6–7 cm wide; ultimate peduncle pubescent; Sinaloa	

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4. Leaves broadly ovate to subdeltoid, 7-11 cm long, 3.5-4.0 cm wide; ultimate peduncles pubescent with upturned, multiseptate, eglandular trichomes; Chiapas Ageratina reserva

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